

The Amyotrophic Lateral  
Sclerosis Association

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August 30, 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
455-12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Ultra-Wideband  
ET Docket 98-153

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing to you in reference to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making on ultra-wideband radio. I am a registered nurse and certified case manager with over 30 years of experience in the medical field. Presently, I am employed by The ALS Association (Lou Gehrig's Disease), Western Ohio Chapter as Patient Services Coordinator.

The primary goal of ALSA is finding a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Until that occurs, our mission is to support and help patients and families live with ALS. At this time, the treatment of ALS is limited to symptomatic relief, prevention of complications, and maintenance of maximal optimal function. In order to do this, our patients rely heavily on assistive technology.

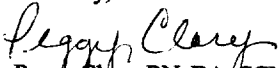
ALS is a fatal motor neuron disease that is characterized by gradual muscle wasting and paralysis. Muscles that control vital functions such as speech, swallowing, and respiration are also affected. As the disease progresses, the patient requires adaptive appliances/equipment to attend to daily needs and to maintain vital bodily functions.

Part of my job is to keep abreast of new research, and technology that could be beneficial to our patient population. After reviewing available information and articles on the ultra-wideband technology, I believe that this technology offers additional hope for ALS patients, as well as others who are disabled. Until a cure for ALS is found, these patients need devices that will help them retain their independence. This could mean improved and more portable communication devices for those who lose their ability to speak. It could mean devices that will assist them in feeding themselves, turning the pages of a book, turning on the TV, or maneuvering wheelchairs. This technology could also help medical personnel and families monitor a patient's physical condition.

I urge you to move forward on allowing further research into ultra-wideband technology. This technology offers great promise to the medical community. At the same time, I encourage you to maintain reasonable regulations to protect public safety.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I look forward to following the the research and development of ultra-wideband technology.

Sincerely,



Peggy Clary, RN, BA, CCM  
Patient Services Coordinator  
The ALS Association Western Ohio Chapter



Lou Gehrig's Disease

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